

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: When Jesus stood before him and he asked, you know, what have you been accused of, and he didn't respond. Pilate said, I wash my hands of this matter. And then he let them go ahead and crucify him. I think that is pretty much what people are doing here today, we will wash our hands of wagering on horse races, we will be hypocrites. But because a certain newspaper in this state is opposed to another type of gambling or wagering, we will hypocritically vote, perhaps, with that newspaper and their paper carrier in the Legislature. I would urge the body not to be hypocritical. I would urge the body not to kill this bill because if you do you may find an amendment up there to do away with the state taking taxes completely from any race track in the state. And then you will be put to the test, are you a hypocrite too, are you going to vote that the state take this ill-gotten money from the poor that go to the races and gamble?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Yes, I can't call that anymore entertainment than I can playing a pickle card or bingo. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Vickers, then Senator Beyer.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, this discussion of whether gambling is right or wrong is rather interesting, particularly with the players involved in the discussion. I think gambling is wrong as well. As a matter of fact I'm pretty convinced of that fact, especially when you gamble on things that you can't win on. I've been gambling now for about 30 years on something that obviously you can't win on. Instead of gambling on something safe, like lotteries or video slots or craps or keno or something like that, I've been gambling with a bunch of danged old cows, and that is the worst kind of gambling, and it is catching as well. It is hard to walk away from that sort of thing. But nevertheless, it would be ridiculous of me, it seems to me, to stand up here and say that I'm opposed to gambling when I'm...my business is one of the biggest gambles in creation. I think it is rather interesting that we are talking about not getting funds to operate government from that terrible